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# GEO 102N.00: Introduction to Physical Geology Lab

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# Syllabus for Introduction to Physical Geology Lab (GEO102)

Section **XX**, Spring, 2013 Class meets: **XXXXX**

Teaching Assistant: **XXX**

Email address: **XXX**

Office: **XXX**

**Course Description:** This class is an introduction to lab work in geology. There will be a lab assignment or exam every week. Labs will consist of a brief introductory discussion with the remaining lab time devoted to hands-on work with rocks, earth materials, maps, and models of geosciences processes. The objective of this course is to familiarize you with basic geologic concepts and the methods used to study them. Emphasis will be on observation and description, the building of a "geologic toolbox", and application of these skills in interpreting geologic processes.

Labs are designed so that you should be able to generally complete them and turn them in at the end of class. This is much more likely to occur **if you have read through the introductory material and lab activities in advance** of your scheduled lab. Labs are due at the end of class or can be turned in at your TA's office by 5 PM the next day (Monday for Friday labs).

**Required materials:** GEO102 Laboratory Manual – coursepack available in UM bookstore

**Communication:** Useful information will be posted on the Moodle site for this course, such as announcements, the syllabus, and any additional handouts distributed in lab. You can also view your grades on Moodle. Please note that your TA will use your official UM email address to communicate with you. **It is your responsibility to make sure you receive these messages sent to your UM email address in a timely manner.**

**Attendance:** You must attend at least one of the first two class meetings (the first and second weeks of the semester) to remain on the roster for this course!

*Official UM policy: "Students who are registered for a course but do not attend the first two class meetings may be required by the instructor to drop the course. This rule allows for early identification of class vacancies to permit other students to add classes. Students not allowed to remain must complete a drop form or drop the course on the internet (<http://cyberbear.umt.edu>) to avoid receiving a failing grade. Students who know they will be absent should contact the instructor in advance."*

**Missing lab during the term:**

**THE NUMBER ONE REASON FOR FAILING THIS CLASS IS MISSING LABS!**

Instructors may excuse brief and occasional absences for reasons of illness, injury, family emergency, religious observance or participation in a University sponsored activity (for example, field trips, ASUM service music or drama performances, and intercollegiate athletics) or for reasons of military service or mandatory public service.

If you must miss a lab for a reason acceptable to your instructor, **you must contact your TA to make arrangements for making it up prior to your scheduled lab time**. If you are sick the day of lab, please e-mail your TA promptly to discuss a makeup or to arrange to attend another lab session the same week (please do not just show up at another lab session). Labs should be turned in promptly to your assigned instructor regardless of the lab period attended.

**A make-up session for the week's lab will be held on Sunday nights from 6-8 PM (prior approval from your TA still required!).**

**Moodle:** We will be using an online course supplement. You can log into Moodle by going to UMLonline from the UM homepage. You will see this course listed when you enter Moodle. If you have technical problems with Moodle, call the UMLonline Support at 243-4999 (during regular working hours only) or email them.

If you do not know your NetID, go to <http://www.umt.edu/it/support/accessres/netid.php>

There will be prelab questions on Moodle each week. This is to help you to use your lab time efficiently, therefore, the prelab assignment is due before your lab session. You can take the prelab "quiz" three times (up to 20 minutes each attempt) up to the deadline time given – your highest scoring attempt will be recorded for your grade.



**Exams:** There will be a midterm and a final that will cover material presented in the lab. **Make-up exams are allowed only at the discretion of the lab instructor.**

<b>Assessment:</b>	Prelabs	10%	<b>Extra credit work worth the equivalent of one lab will be offered.</b>
	Labs	65%	
	Midterm Exam	12.5%	
	Final Exam	12.5%	
	Total	100%	

Final course grades will be:	A 93-100%	A- 90-92%	B+ 87-89%	B 83-86%
	B- 80-82%	C+ 77-79%	C 73-76%	C- 70-72%
	D+ 67-69%	D 63-66%	D- 60-62%	F 59 or below

Please note: You must take the class with traditional grading to apply it towards the Gen Ed lab science requirement. A minimum grade of C- must be earned for the course to be used for the Gen Ed requirement.

**Academic Honesty:** *All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or disciplinary sanction by the University. All students need to be familiar with the Student Conduct Code. The Code is available for review online at:*

[http://life.umt.edu/vpsa/student\\_conduct.php](http://life.umt.edu/vpsa/student_conduct.php)

You are encouraged to work together with a group of students in lab, but must hand in your own completed lab, on the lab manual pages, written in your own words. Copying another student's lab response is considered a form of academic dishonesty, and will not be tolerated.

**Students with Disabilities:** Students with disabilities will receive reasonable modifications in this course. Your responsibilities are to request modifications with sufficient advance notice, and to be prepared to provide verification of disability and its impact from Disability Services. Please speak to your TA after class or during office hours to discuss the details. For more information, visit the Disability Services for Students website at <http://life.umt.edu/dss>.

## **Course Schedule**

<b>Dates</b>	<b>Lab</b>	<b>Topic</b>
Jan. 28 – Feb. 1	One	Plate Boundaries
Feb. 4 – 8	Two	Global Tectonics
Feb. 11 – 15	Three	Minerals
Feb. 18 – 22 <sup>1</sup>	Four	Igneous Rocks and Volcanoes
Feb. 25 – Mar. 1	Five	Sedimentary Rocks
Mar. 4 – 8	Six	Metamorphic Rocks and the Rock Cycle
<b>Mar. 11 – 15</b>		<b>Midterm Lab Exams</b>
Mar. 18 – 22	Seven	Geologic Structures
Mar. 25 – 29	Eight	Earthquakes
<b>Apr. 1 – 5</b>		<b>Spring Break Week – no labs!</b>
Apr. 8 – 12	Nine	Geologic Time
Apr. 15 – 19	Ten	Walking Field Trip
Apr. 22 – 26	Eleven	Glaciers and Climate
Apr. 29 – May 3	Twelve	Rivers
May 6 – 10	Thirteen	Groundwater
<b>May 13 – 17</b>		<b>Final Lab Exam: put date and time for section here</b>

<sup>1</sup>If you have lab on Monday you must attend a different lab session this week as no classes will meet on Feb. 18 (President's Day Holiday).